



## Gasterosteus aculeatus

### Threespine stickleback

#### General

1. Anadromous, marine and freshwater
2. Growing to 10cm

#### Geography and Habitats

1. Native: Arctic and Atlantic drainages, Pacific drainages, Europe, Iceland, Greenland, Pacific coast of Asia, Great Lakes only below Niagara Falls
2. Habitat
  - Fresh waters, estuaries and coastal seas, brackish water
  - Prefers small streams in freshwater, though occur in lakes and large rivers
  - Shallow, vegetated areas, usually over mud or sand
  - Temperate waters: 4°C—20°C



Photo: Noel M. Burkhead  
<http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?speciesID=702>

#### Invasion Pathways

1. Bait dealers
2. Released by anglers
3. Ship ballast water

#### Sources

1. <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.aspx?speciesID=702>
2. <http://fishbase.org/Summary/speciesSummary.php?ID=2420&genusname=Gasterosteus&speciesname=aculeatus+aculeatus>